

amendment is demeaning, unfair, and I say insulting to the civilian merchant mariner of the United States of America.

In World War II, I had the great honor and privilege of serving my country, and it is true that my pay, even as that of a captain, was less than that of most of the merchant mariners. But as a result of my injury, for the rest of my life, I will receive a pension. The merchant mariner who was injured in World War II is not receiving that pension. As a result of my service in the military, I received the bountiful gift of this Nation, the GI Bill of Rights. I received my law degree and my baccalaureate through the GI Bill of Rights. The merchant mariner who served during World War II did not receive the GI Bill of Rights. And because of my injury, Mr. President—and this sounds rather facetious—in order to assist me in my mobility throughout the neighborhood, my country gave me a car, an automobile. The disabled merchant mariner did not receive a car. Today, as a result of my injury in World War II, my wife and I receive full medical benefits for the rest of our lives. The merchant mariner doesn't receive that.

As a result of that, understandably, the merchant mariner said this will never happen again. So, since then, they have organized and they have said, "Though we cannot get the GI Bill, nor can we get lifetime pensions and hospitalization and dependents' benefits, we are going to insist that if we are going to stand in harm's way and risk our lives, we should be covered."

Mr. President, we are, by this amendment, comparing apples to coconuts—apples and oranges look alike in some cases, but this is apples and coconuts. I hope that at the appropriate time tomorrow morning—whatever my leader wishes to do—we will dispose of this with an overwhelming vote, because this is not fair. It is insulting to our merchant mariners.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, unfortunately, the amendment that the Senator from Iowa has offered deals with another situation. Under this bill before the Senate, the U.S. Government will pay a flat fee for the use of the vessel fully crewed. What the shipowners pay the crew is a private matter. It will not affect the payment at all.

As I said in my opening statement, the problem with the Persian Gulf, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, was we had to go to get foreign shipping. And in most instances, the premiums extracted were 50 percent of the total cost, not just the crew cost. In some instances, it was double the charter price. In spite of that, crews refused to enter the war zone.

Now, the Senator's amendment deals with something that happened in the past, which would not be the situation in the future with regard to this bill. But even with regard to what happened

under Desert Shield/Desert Storm, I think the Senator forgets that we recovered the cost of our participation in that crisis, that war, from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. This wasn't taxpayer cost that the Senator was talking about at all.

So, as I indicated, if we had had an agreement, I would not make a motion to table.

I now move to table the amendment. Under the leader's direction, there will be no vote on that tonight. The vote will occur tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate go into a period of routine morning business so that we can bring about the closing of this day, and we will continue on this bill tomorrow morning following a vote on my motion to table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BYRD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SENATE LIBRARY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, Shakespeare wrote in *The Tempest*, "My library was dukedom large enough." With those few words he expressed the satisfaction, fulfillment and power available through the knowledge recorded and preserved in a well-stocked library.

With those thoughts in mind, I rise to pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the Senate's own "dukedom," the Senate Library.

The Library of the Senate is a legislative and general reference library that provides a wide variety of information services to Senate offices in a prompt and timely fashion.

It maintains a comprehensive collection of congressional and governmental publications, and of materials relating to the specialized information needs of the Senate: government and politics, history, political biography, economics, international relations and other topics. The Library's resources and services are dedicated to providing the Members of the Senate and their staffs with critically needed information on issues affecting legislative deliberation and decisionmaking.

The origins of the Senate Library can be traced back as early as 1792 when the Senate, then meeting in Philadelphia, directed the Secretary "to procure, and deposit in his office, the laws of the several states, for the use of the Senate," as well as maps of the country. During the first half of the nineteenth century, the Chief Clerk of the Senate added to these materials by collecting copies of the bills, resolutions and reports of each Congress. By the end of the 1850's, the need for a library

to maintain this collection had become evident; efforts to establish the library culminated in resolutions in 1870 to designate rooms to be fitted—and I quote from the *Senate Journal*—"to hold and arrange for the convenience of the Senate books and documents now in charge of the Secretary of the Senate."

Let me say that again: "to hold and arrange for the convenience of the Senate books and documents now in charge of the Secretary of the Senate."

The first librarian to be appointed was George S. Wagner, who officially commenced his duties on July 1, 1871.

While today's Senate Library continues to maintain the core collection of legislative materials that necessitated its establishment 125 years ago, its operations have been transformed by modern technology. The current Senate Librarian, Roger K. Haley, is a veteran of 32 years in the library, and he has witnessed the transition from a completely paper-based service to one that now relies as well on electronic databases, the Internet, and microform. Another significant change occurring over the last twenty years has been the growth in professional staffing in response to the more diverse and sophisticated information needs of Senate patrons.

More than half of the current library staff of 22 consists of highly skilled librarians trained to meet the special requirements of Senate offices. This dedicated team performs an outstanding job in responding quickly to the some 70,000 inquiries that were received last year.

It is a pleasure for me to take this opportunity to commend the Senate Library for its vital service to the Senate and to extend a warm congratulations as it celebrates its 125th anniversary year.

Thomas Carlyle wrote that, "All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been: it is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books."

Especially in this day and age when our Nation faces the turmoil of dramatic, far-reaching change, the knowledge, wisdom, and experience available to us through the source of an extensive and efficient in-house library is critical to helping us make considered judgments.

I thank all of the fine personnel involved with the Senate Library for helping us to light the corridors of our minds so that we may better lead the way for our Nation.

Mr. President, I know of no Senator—I would not have any reason to know if there were—any Senator who calls upon the Senate library more than I call upon it, more than my staff and I lean upon it and depend upon it. And I want to express my gratitude to the people in the Senate library who always respond so courteously and are so cooperative.

So there is a list of 16 persons who have served the Senate as Librarian